

Department of Natural Resources



Natural Climate Solutions Funding Update

Chair Report – Board of Natural Resources

January 3, 2024

Duane Emmons



WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF
NATURAL RESOURCES

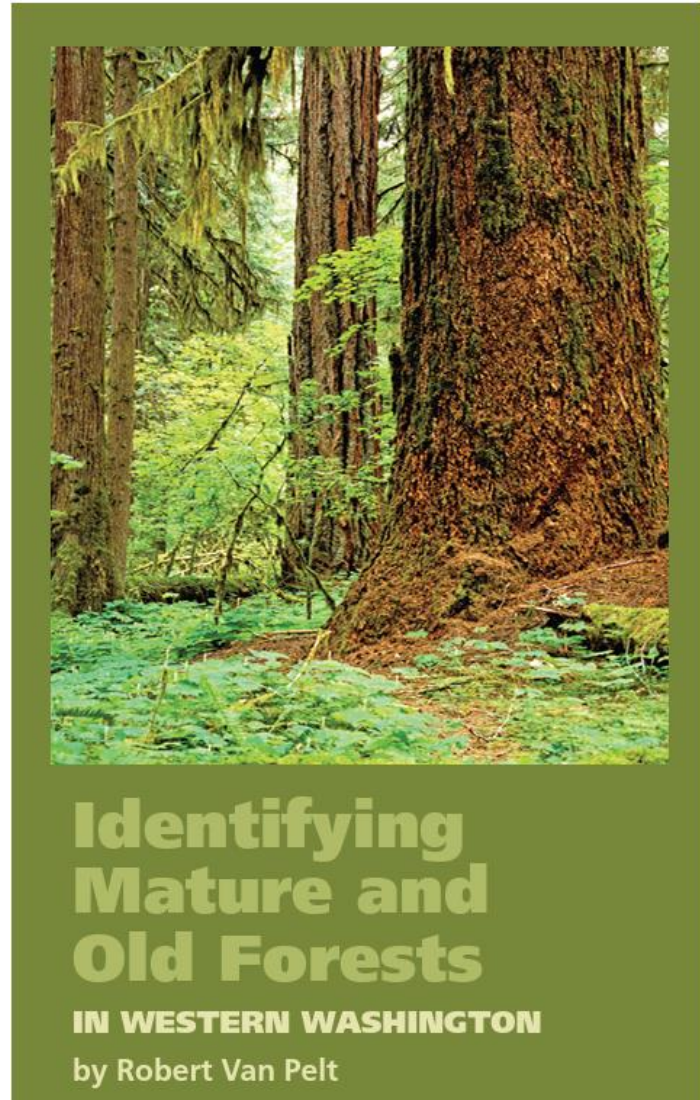
dnr.wa.gov

Identification of 2000 Acres

Status

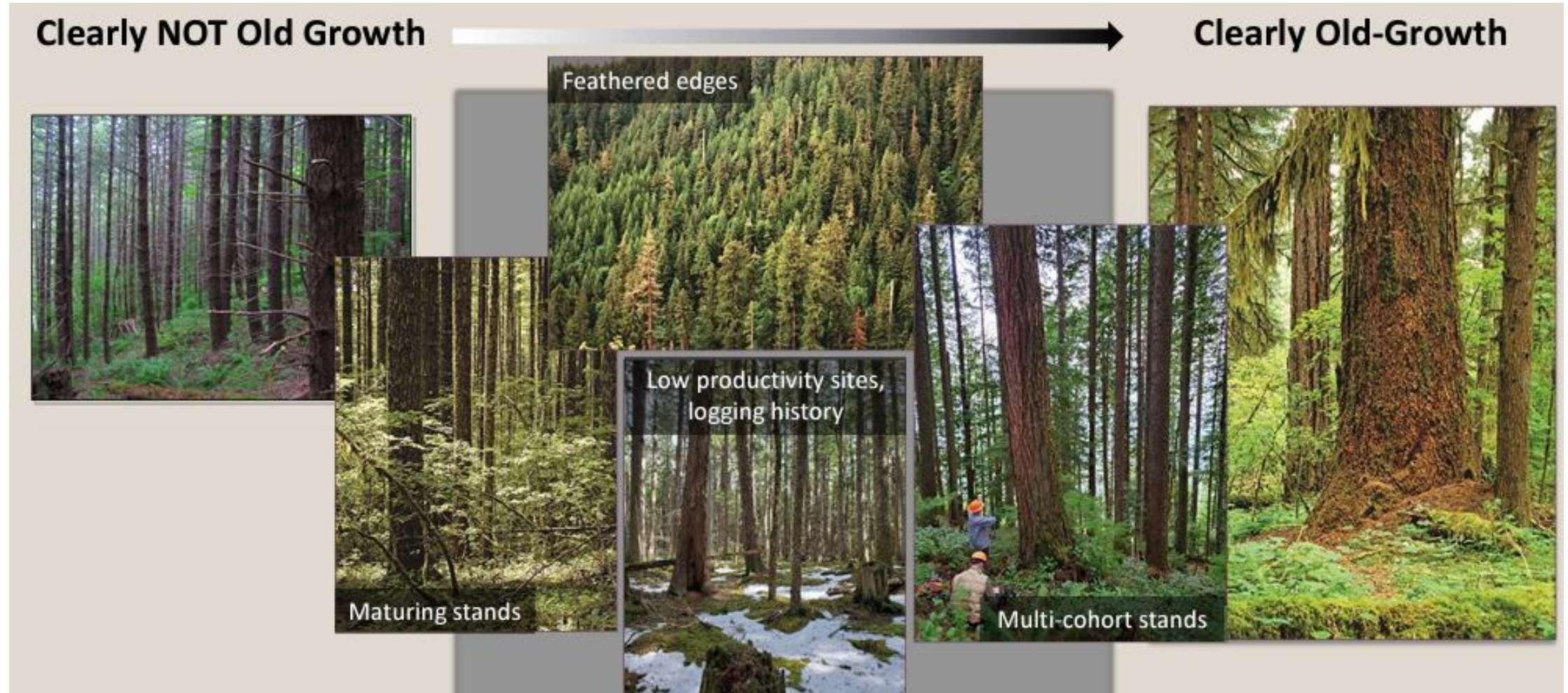
- Identification of 2000 acres
 - Utilizing Van Pelt's guide definitions of Maturation 1 and Maturation 2 to help identify "carbon dense, structurally complex" forests.
 - Seeking to conserve areas adjacent to existing habitat, in areas to improve connectivity, and to avoid isolated small fragments scattered across ownership.
- County Concurrence

Discussing the process of identification, land transaction process, and nature of federal and state forest transfer trusts with counties



Funding for Land Acquisitions

Selections based on science to ensure durable carbon storage over time



Identification of 2000 Acres

Methodology

A stand must have at least 60 metric tons per acre of live carbon and meet one or more of the following criteria:

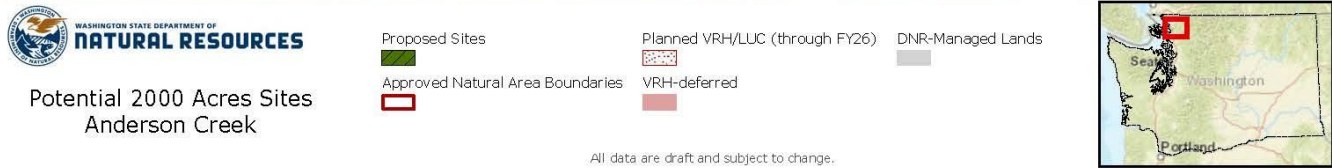
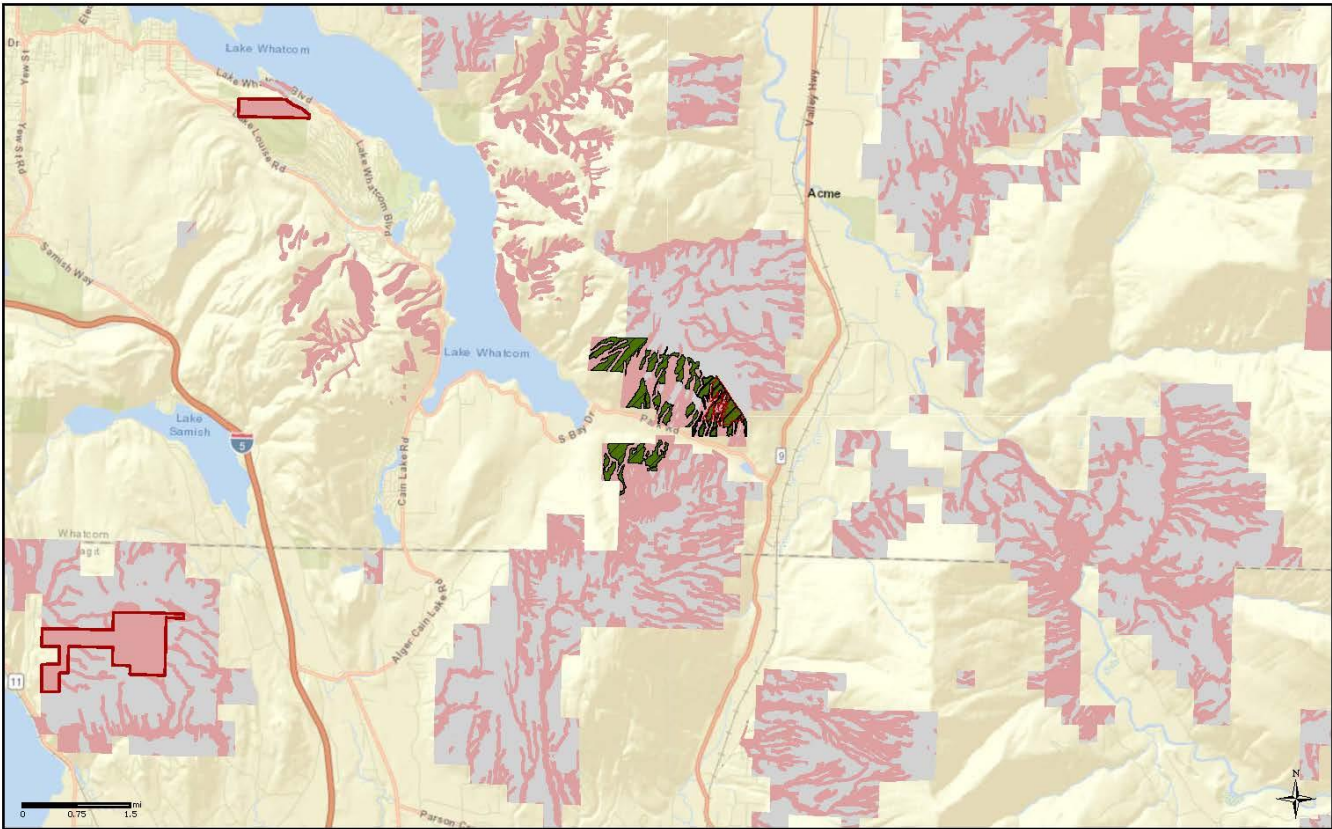
- At least 1.8 modeled canopy layers
- A Quadratic Mean Diameter* of at least 17 inches for the largest 100 trees
- At least 12 trees per acre that are in the 30 inch diameter class or larger

*The quadratic mean gives greater weight to larger trees and is equal to or greater than the arithmetic mean.

In stands with small diameters and a narrow range of diameters, the differences are slight. In stands with large diameters and a wide range of diameters present or with strongly skewed diameter distributions, the differences between arithmetic mean and quadratic mean diameters can be substantial.



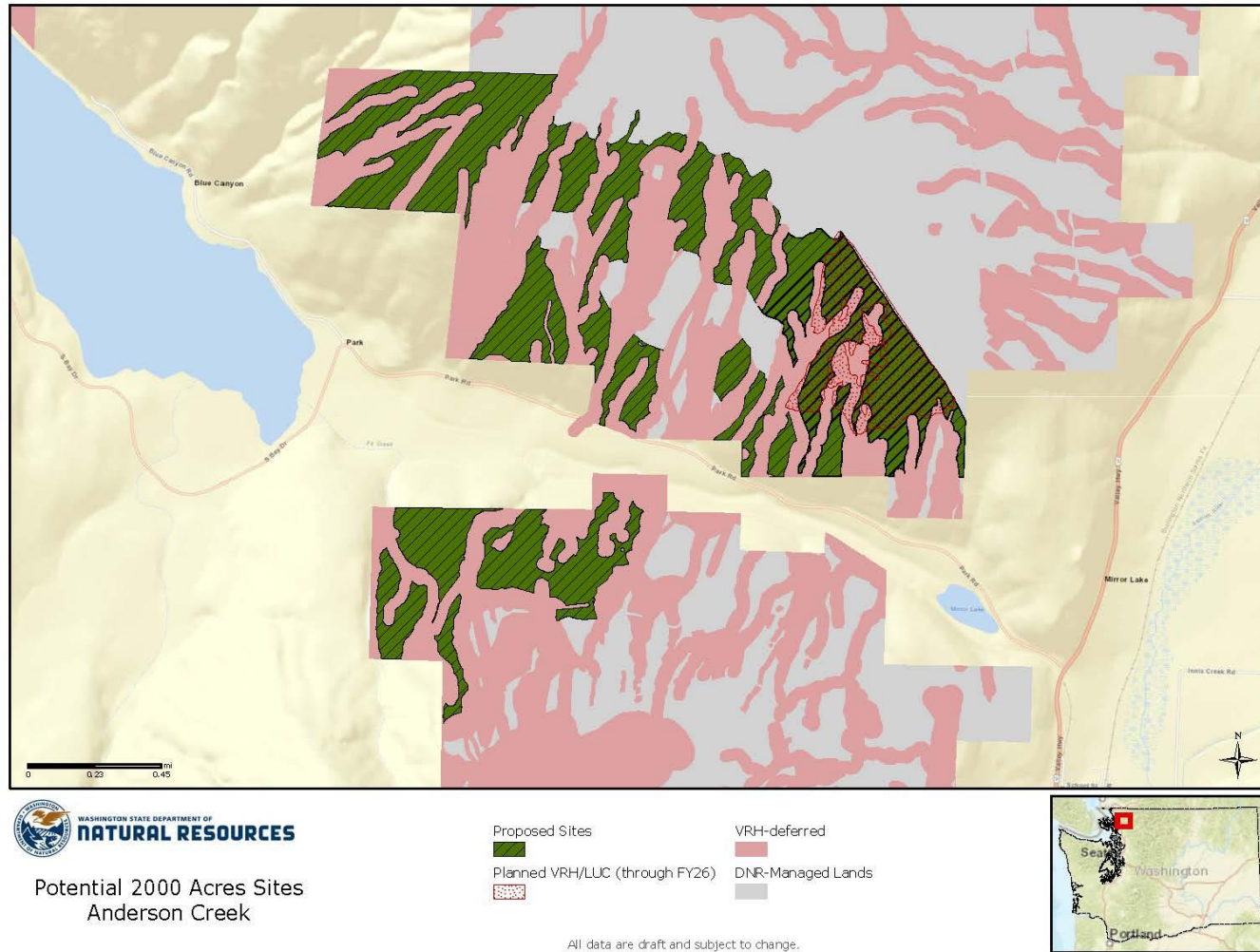
Whatcom County



Anderson Creek

Trusts	Acres
State Forest Transfer	190
Scientific School	83
State Forest Purchase	64
Common School and Indemnity	233
Agricultural School	4
Capitol Grant	1
Grand Total	575

Whatcom County

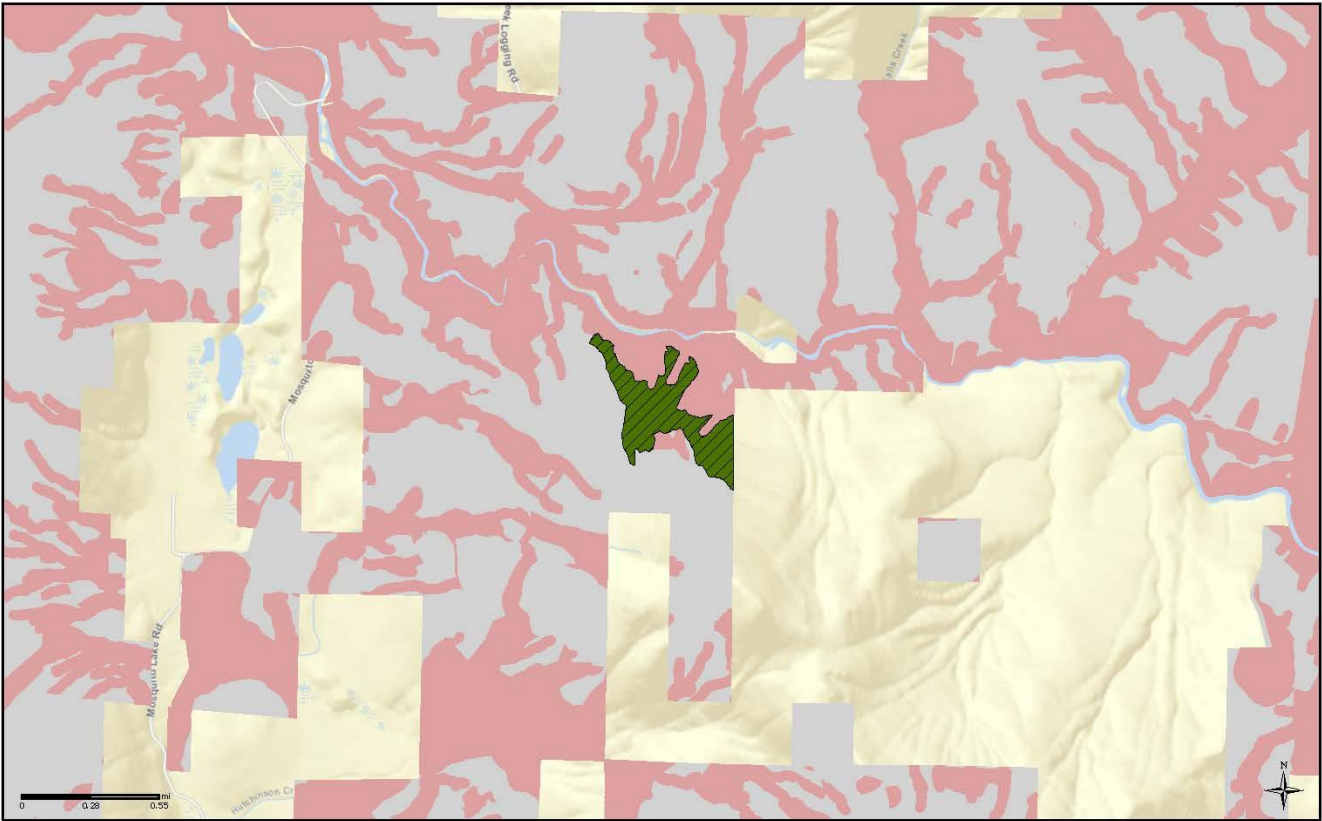


Co-benefits

Large contiguous block of structurally complex forest within Lake Whatcom Watershed and adjacent to habitat

Allows for creation of a larger contiguous Natural Resource Conservation Area (NRCA)

Whatcom County



Potential 2000 Acres Sites
Brokedown Palace

- Proposed Sites
- Planned VRH/LUC (through FY26)
- VRH-deferred
- DNR-Managed Lands

All data are draft and subject to change.

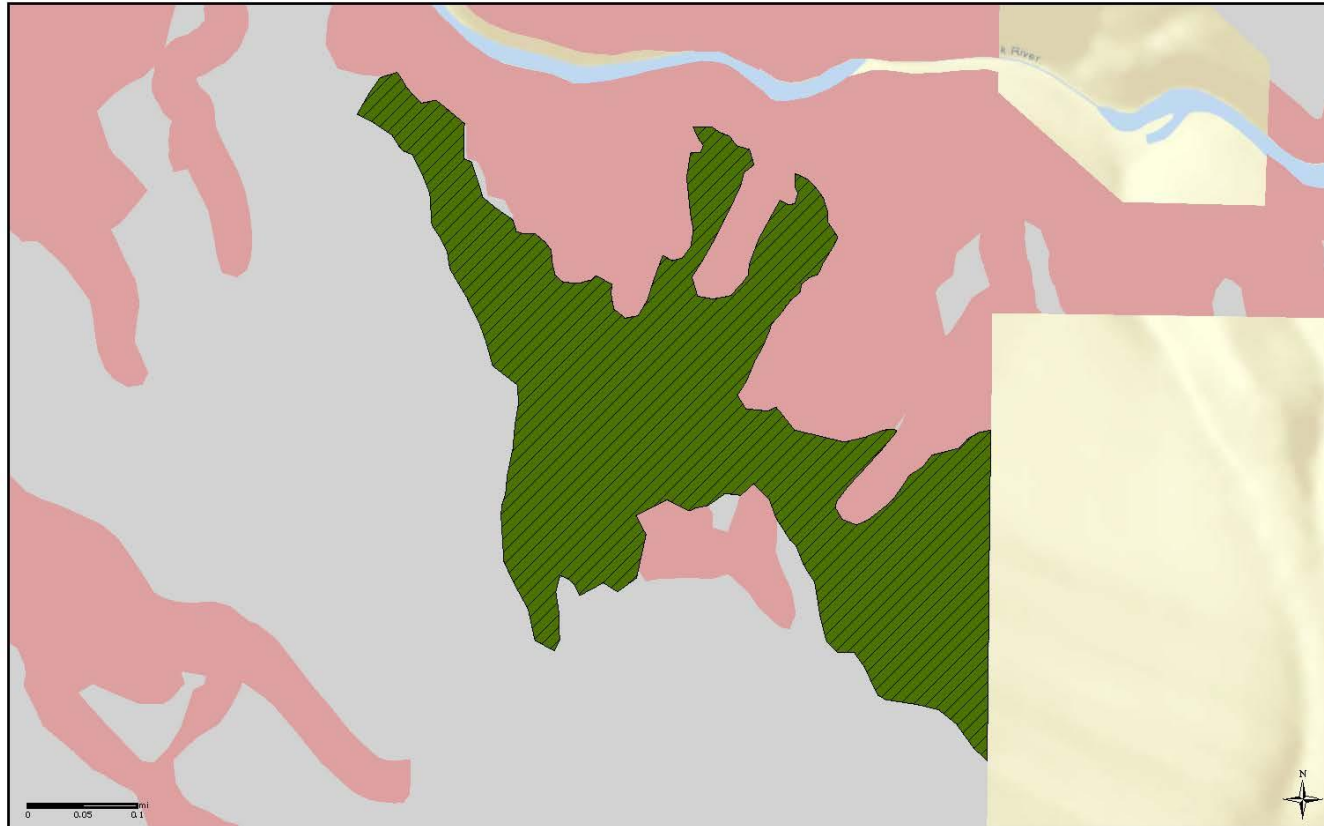


Brokedown Palace

Trusts	Acres
State Forest Transfer	42
Common School	33
Grand Total	75



Whatcom County



Potential 2000 Acres Sites
Brokedown Palace



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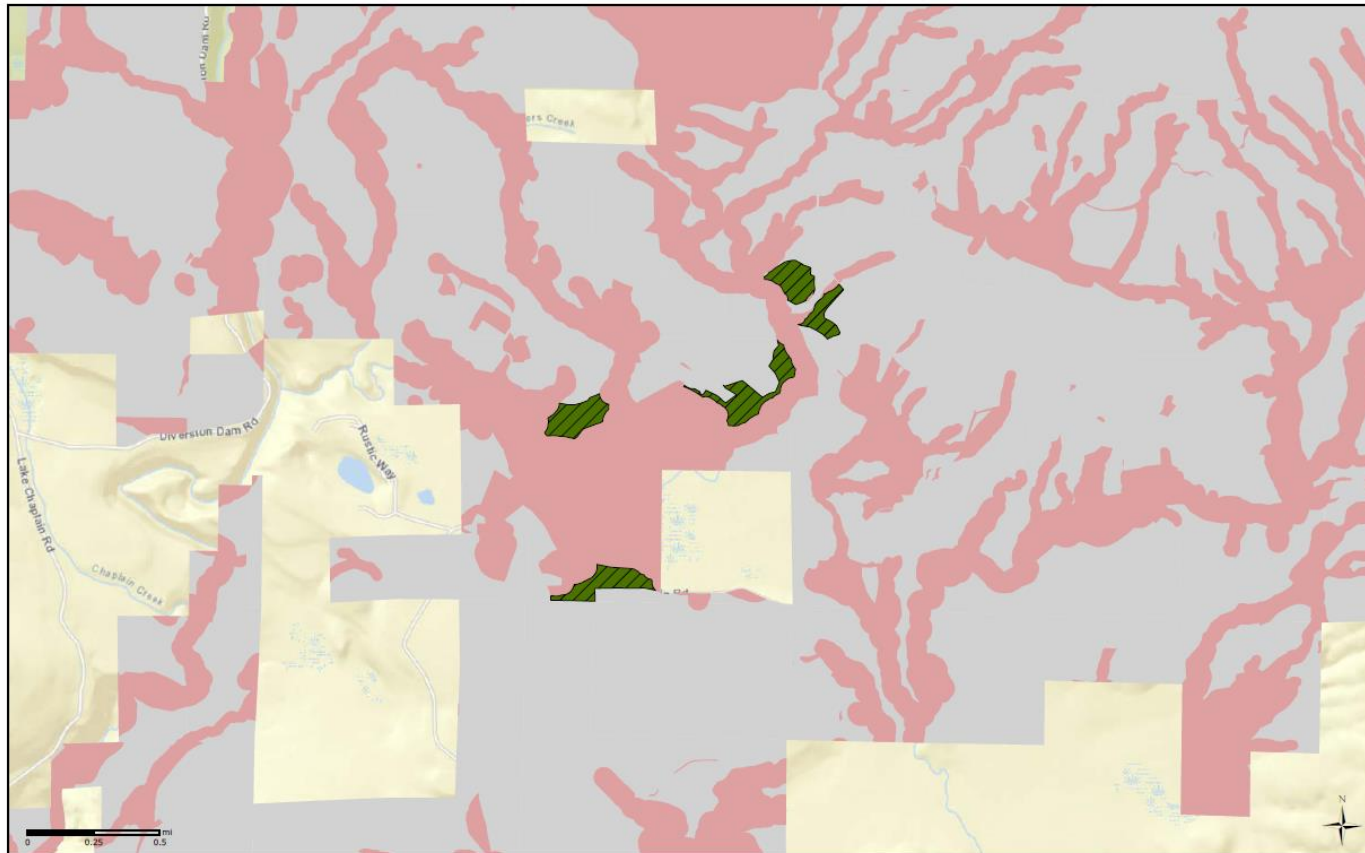
Co-benefits

Provides connectivity between larger blocks of conservation

Adjacent to field verified old growth

Increases buffer on Nooksack River

Snohomish County



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Potential 2000 Acres Sites
Marsh Creek

Proposed Sites
VRH-deferred

Planned VRH/LUC (through FY26)

DNR-Managed Lands

All data are draft and subject to change.



Marsh Creek

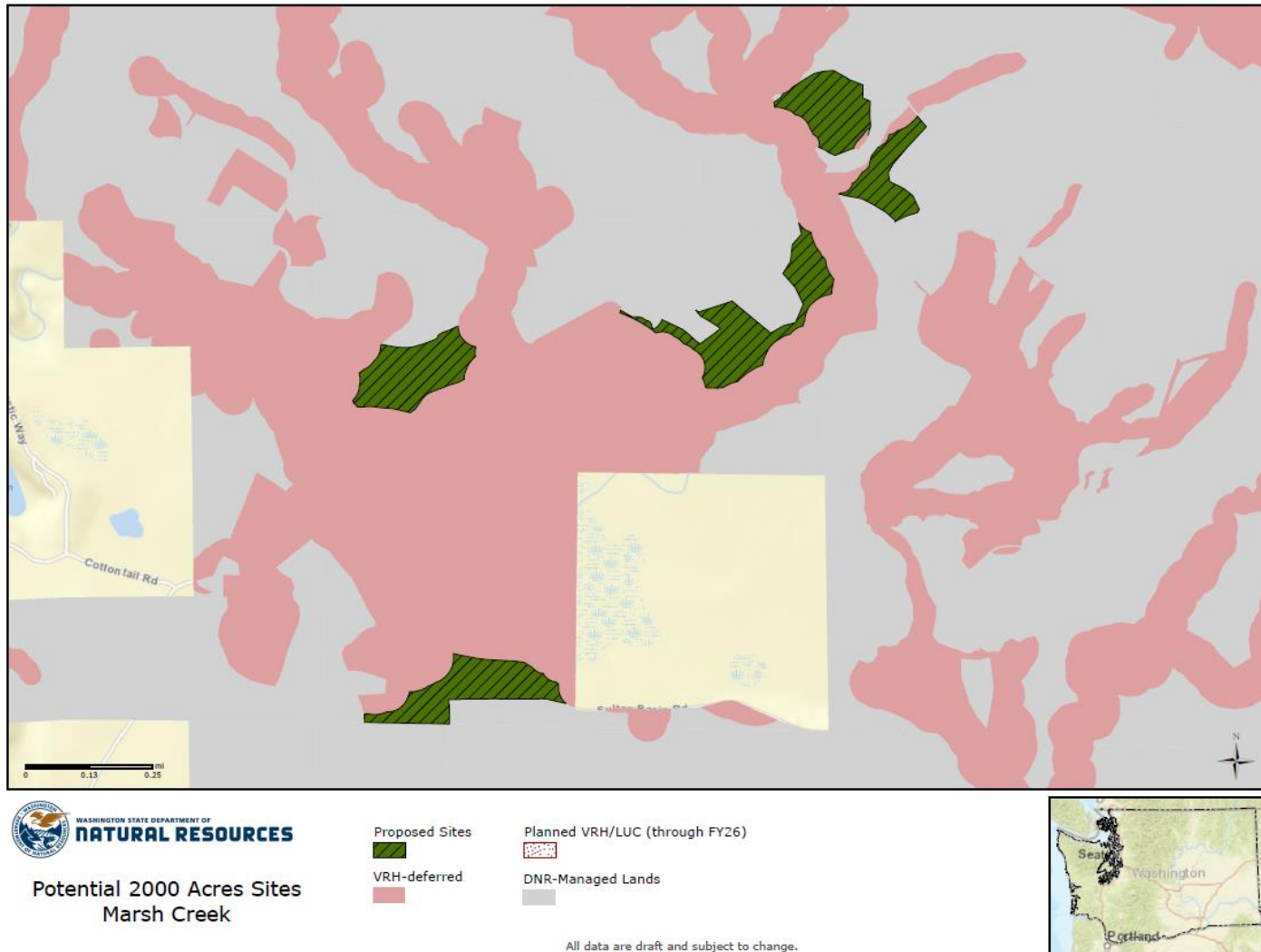
Trusts	Acres
State Forest Transfer	46
Common School and Indemnity	18
Agricultural School	5
Grand Total	68



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Snohomish County



Co-benefits

Buffers rare and sensitive wetland complex.

Washington Natural Heritage Council identified area as high priority for conservation

Avoids short-term impact to beneficiaries at the request of the county council

Marsh Creek

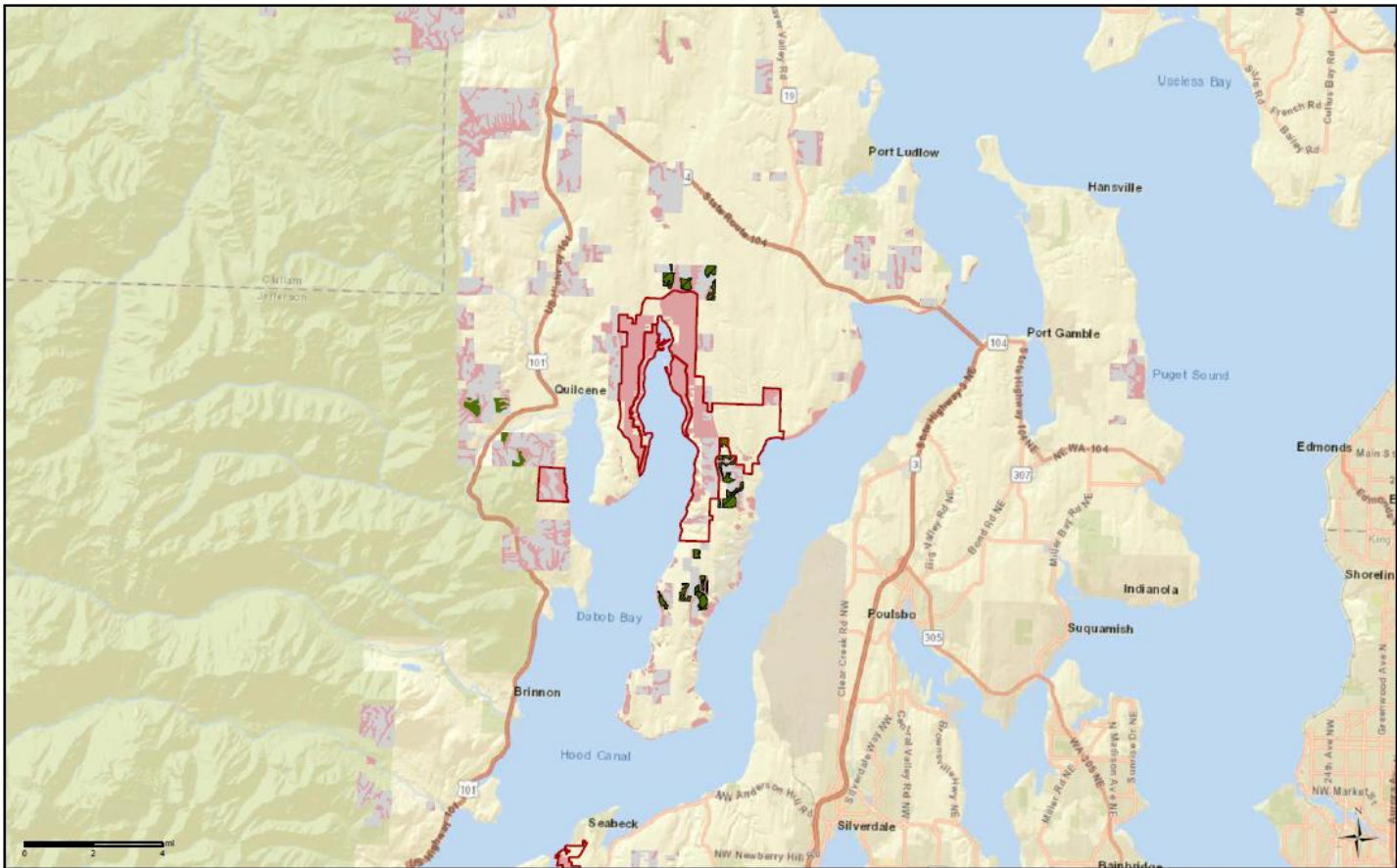



Condition

Although the immediate buffer and overall landscape has had, and continues to have, significant timber harvest activity, the wetland complex is in good ecological condition. Species composition and structure are at or near conditions expected with no human-induced disturbances.

Most low elevation wetlands in western Washington, especially marshes and shrubs swamps, are at least partially dominated by aggressive nonnative species such as *Phalaris arundinacea* and *Iris pseudacorus* and aggressive native species such as *Typha latifolia* and *Spiraea douglasii* (Rocchio and Crawford 2014).

Jefferson County



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Potential 2000 Acres Sites
Dabob

Proposed Sites
VRH-deferred
Approved Natural Area Boundaries
DNR-Managed Lands

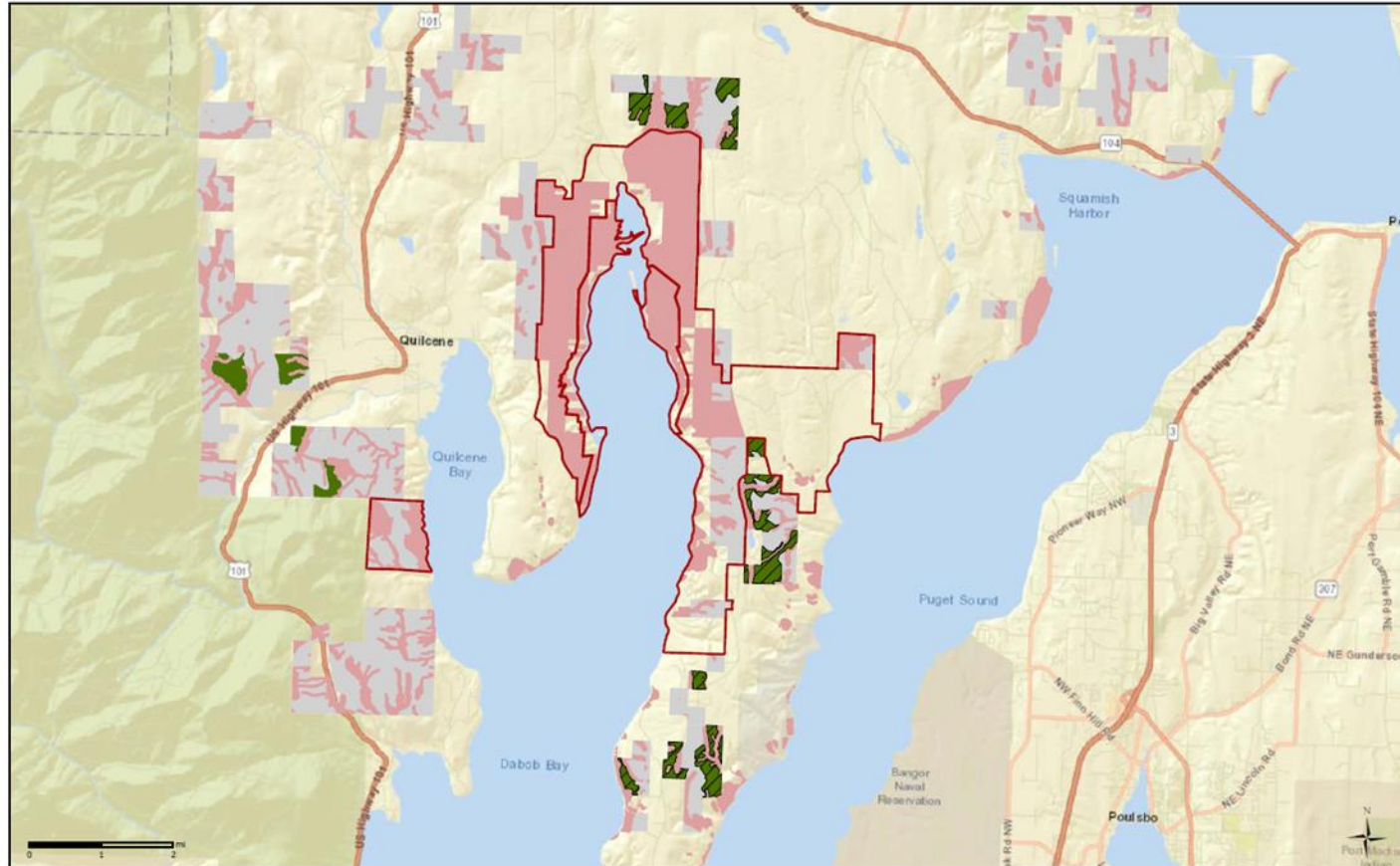
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Dabob

Trusts	Acres
State Forest Transfer	606
Common School and Indemnity	65
Grand Total	671

Jefferson County



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Potential 2000 Acres Sites
Dabob

Proposed Sites


Approved Natural Area Boundaries



Planned VRH/LUC (through FY26)



VRH-deferred



DNR-Managed Lands



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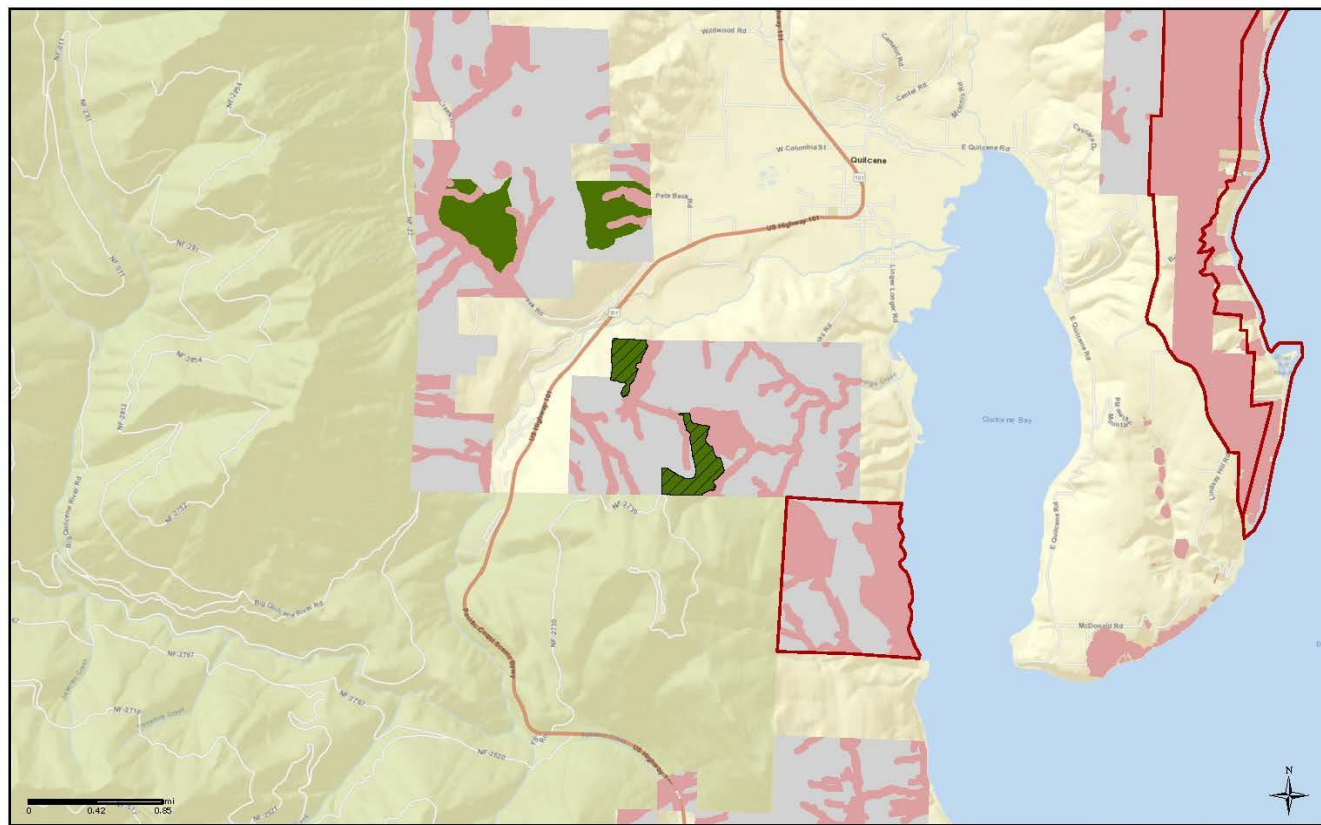
Co-benefits

Adjacent to existing Natural Area

Presence of rare plant community in the vicinity

Adjacent to federal ownership

Jefferson County



Potential 2000 Acres Sites
Mt Walker

Proposed Sites
Approved Natural Area Boundaries
Planned VRH/LUC (through FY26)
VRH-deferred
DNR-Managed Lands

All data are draft and subject to change.



Mt Walker & Notch Pass

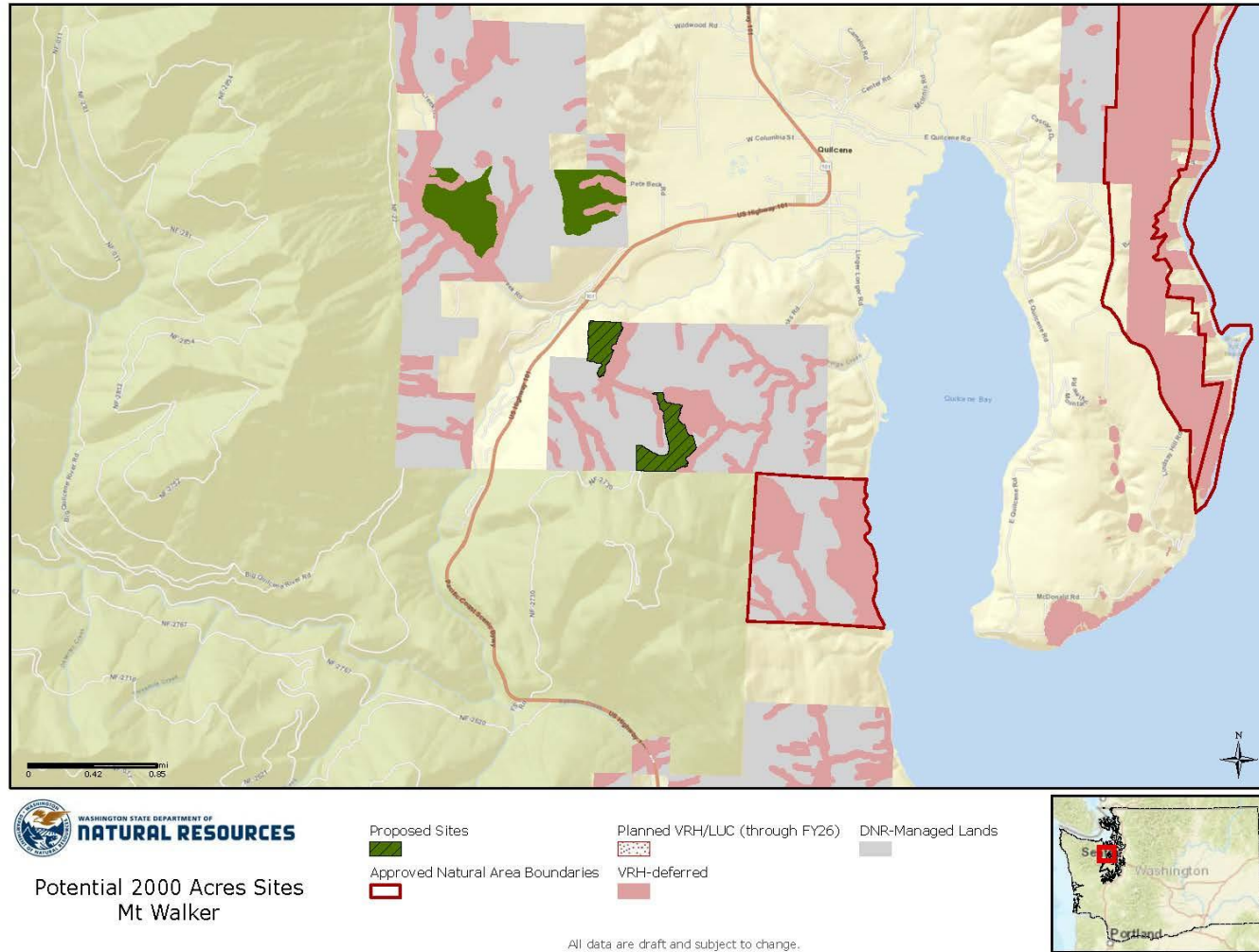
Trusts	Acres
State Forest Transfer	281
Grand Total	281



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Jefferson County



Co-benefits

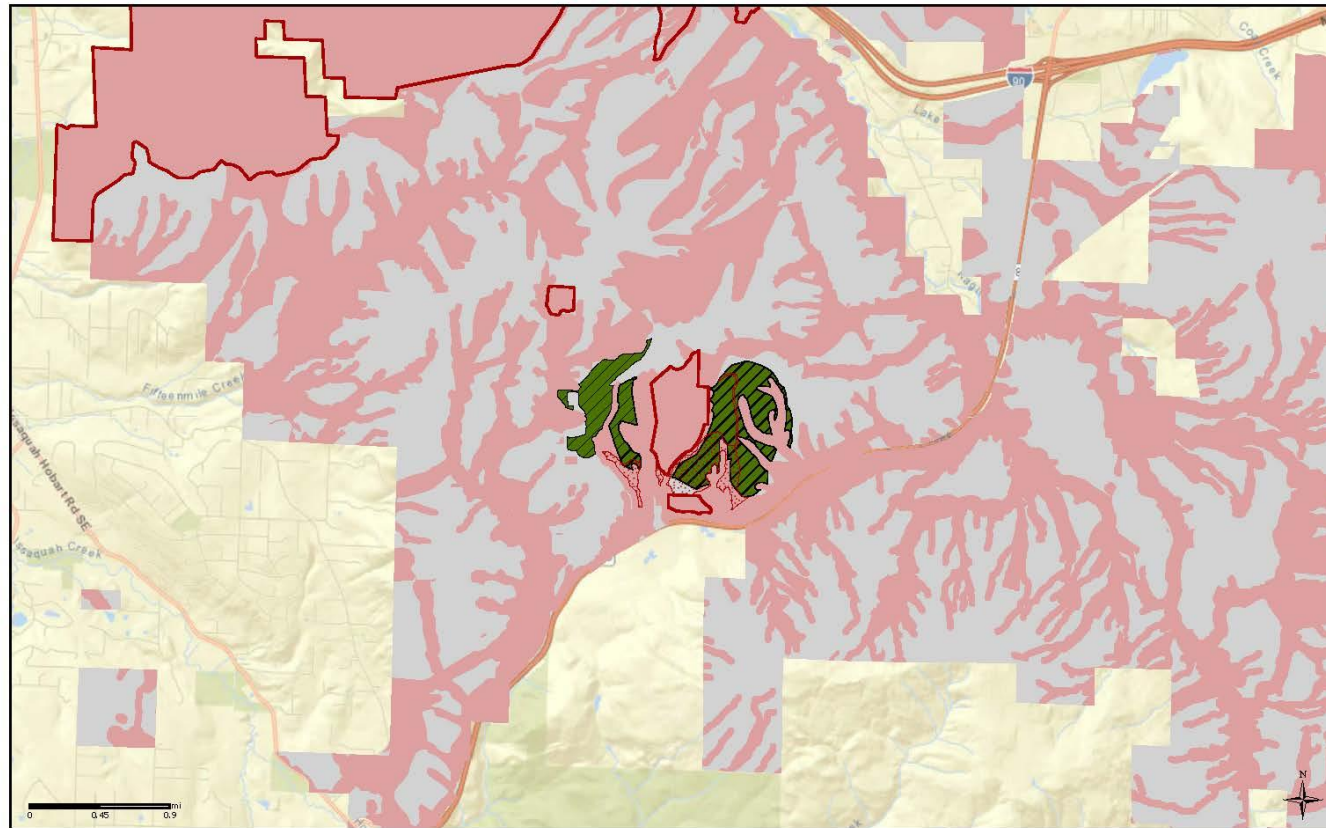
Adjacent to existing Natural Area

Adjacent to habitat

Increases riparian buffers

Adjacent to federal ownership

King County



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Potential 2000 Acres Sites
West Tiger Mtn

Proposed Sites

Approved Natural Area Boundaries



Planned VRH/LUC (through FY26)

VRH-deferred



DNR-Managed Lands



All data are draft and subject to change.



West Tiger Mountain

Trusts	Acres
State Forest Transfer	136
Scientific School	31
Capitol Grant	125
Grand Total	292



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January 3, 2024

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King County



Potential 2000 Acres Sites
West Tiger Mtn

Proposed Sites

Approved Natural Area Boundaries

Planned VRH/LUC (through FY26)

VRH-deferred

DNR-Managed Lands

All data are draft and subject to change.



Co-benefits

Adjacent to existing Natural Resource Conservation Area

Within the Mountains to Sound Greenway National Heritage Area and adjacent to Hwy 18

Next Steps

County Concurrence

Letters have been sent to each county with a request for concurrence by January 31st

Land Transfers

Land transfers will occur as lands are acquired for each trust.

Transfers must be appraised for full fair market value.

Acquisitions and transfers will each be presented to the board for approval



